

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 7, 8, 11, 12, and 27 without prejudice and amend claims 1-6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 23-26, 28 and 29 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A storage unit comprising:

a first, and second and third horizontal shelf member members, at least said second horizontal shelf member comprising a threaded insert;

at least one first vertical panel disposed between said first and second horizontal shelf members, with a bottom of said at least one first vertical panel supported by said first horizontal shelf member and said second horizontal shelf member supported on a top of said at least one first vertical panel, and at least one second vertical panel, wherein a bottom of said second vertical panel is supported on said second horizontal shelf member and said third horizontal shelf member is supported on a top of said at least one second vertical panel; and

at least one first tie member extending between and connecting said first and second horizontal shelf members with said at least one first vertical panel clamped therebetween, wherein said at least one first tie member threadably engages said threaded insert from a first side of said threaded insert; and

at least one second tie member extending between and connecting said second and third horizontal shelf members with said at least one second vertical panel clamped therebetween, wherein said at least one second tie member threadably engages said threaded insert from a second side of said threaded insert.

2. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim 1 wherein said at least one first vertical panel comprises a securing member engaging said at least one tie member.

3. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim 1 wherein said at least one first vertical panel comprises a pair of side panels, and further comprising a back panel extending between said side panels.

4. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim 3 wherein said at least one first tie member comprises at least a pair of said first and second tie members member,

wherein one of said pair of first tie members member engages one of said side panels and said back panel and the other of said pair of said first second tie member members engages the other of said side panels and said back panel.

5. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim 4 wherein each of said side panels and said back panel comprise a securing member, wherein said pair of first and second tie members are engaged by said side and back panels securing members.

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6. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim 3 further comprising at least three first a third tie members member, with one of said first tie members engaging one of said side panels, and a front panel pivotally attached to said one of said first tie members engaging said one of said side panels third tie member.

Claims 7 and 8 (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim 6 wherein at least one of said side, front and back panels is made of a translucent material.

10. (Currently Amended) A storage unit kit having components capable of being assembled into a storage unit, the kit comprising:

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first, second and third a plurality of shelf members, wherein each of said shelf members has an opening extending therethrough and comprises a threaded insert disposed in said opening, wherein said threaded insert comprises a threaded bore extending therethrough and open to both sides of (said at least one shelf member, wherein said insert is capable of being threadably engaged from opposite ends thereof;

a plurality of side panels, at least two of which are adapted to be supported on one of said shelf members, with another of said shelf members supported on said at least two side panels;

at least one back panel adapted to extend between said at least two side panels;

a plurality of tie members adapted to extend between and connect at least two of said shelf members with said at least two side panels clamped therebetween; and

at least one front panel adapted to be connected to at least one of said side panels.

Claims 11 and 12 (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) The storage unit kit ~~invention~~ of claim 10 wherein each of said side panels, back panels and front panels comprise a securing member adapted to engage at least one of said tie members.

14. (Currently Amended) The storage unit kit ~~invention~~ of claim 13 wherein said securing members on said side panels and said back and front panels are arranged along a length thereof respectively such that they are staggered relative to each other with openings formed thereby in coaxial alignment when said storage unit is assembled.

Claims 15-22 (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) A storage unit comprising:

a first and second horizontal shelf member;

a pair of side panels disposed between said first and second horizontal shelf members, wherein each side panel comprises a bottom, a top, a front and a back, wherein said bottom of each of said side panels is supported by said first shelf member and wherein said second shelf member is supported on said tops of said side panels, and wherein each of said side panels comprising a securing member disposed along said front and back thereof;

a back panel having opposite sides and comprising a securing member along each of said sides thereof, wherein said back panel extends between said side panels with said securing members of said back panel aligned with said securing members on said backs of said side panels;

a front panel having opposite sides and comprising a securing member disposed along at least one of said sides thereof, wherein said securing member of said front panel is aligned with said securing member on the front of one of said side panels;

a first and second tie member engaging said aligned securing members of said back panel and said side panels on each side of said back panel, and a third tie member

engaging said aligned securing members of said front panel and said side panel, said first, second and third tie members connecting said first and second horizontal shelf members with said side panels clamped therebetween;

a third horizontal shelf member;

a second pair of side panels disposed between said second and third horizontal shelf members, wherein each of said second pair of side panels comprises a bottom, a top, a front and a back, wherein said bottom of each of said second pair of side panels is supported by said second shelf member and wherein said third shelf member is supported on said tops of said second pair of side panels, and wherein each of said second pair of side panels comprises a securing member disposed along said front and back thereof;

a second back panel having opposite sides and comprising a securing member disposed along each of said sides thereof, wherein said second back panel extends between said second pair of side panels with said securing members of said back panel aligned with said securing member on said backs of said second pair of side panels;

a second front panel having opposite sides and comprising a securing member disposed along at least one of said sides thereof, wherein said securing member of said front panel is aligned with said securing member on the front of one of said second pair of side panels;

a fourth and fifth tie member engaging said aligned securing members of said second back panel and said second pair of side panels on each side of said second back panel, and a sixth tie member engaging said aligned securing members of said second front panel and said one of said second pair of side panels, said fourth, fifth and sixth tie members connecting said second and third horizontal shelf members with said second pair of side panels clamped therebetween.

24. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim 23 wherein said first and second shelf members each comprise a plurality of inserts threadably engaged with opposite ends of said first, second and third tie members.

25. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim 23 wherein said front panel comprises a pair of first front panels each is a first front panel, and further comprising a second front panel having a securing member disposed along one side thereof, wherein said

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securing ~~members member~~ of said ~~pair of first second~~ front ~~panels are~~ panel is aligned with said securing ~~members member~~ on the front of ~~the other of~~ said side panels, and further comprising a ~~seventh fourth~~ tie member engaging said aligned securing members of ~~one of~~ said ~~pair of said first front panels and one of said side panels second front panel and said other side panel~~, said ~~seventh fourth~~ tie member connecting said first and second horizontal shelf members with said side panels clamped therebetween, and wherein said ~~pair of said~~ first ~~and second~~ front panels are pivotable about said third and ~~seventh fourth~~ tie members respectively.

26. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim 23 wherein said back of each of said side panels comprises a back panel section extending substantially perpendicular to a side panel section of said side panel, and wherein said securing member disposed along said back are disposed along an inboard edge of said back panel section.

Claim 27 (Cancelled).

28. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim ~~24~~ 23 wherein said fourth, fifth and sixth tie members are threadably engaged with said plurality of inserts in said second shelf member.

29. (Currently Amended) The storage unit invention of claim 28 wherein said third shelf member comprise a plurality of inserts threadably engaged with said fourth, fifth and sixth tie members.
